

Message Text

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SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS OF PRES. DAOUD'S "JESHYN"
(REPUBLIC DAY) SPEECH

REF: A. KABUL 3173 B. KABUL 4630

1. PRESIDENT DAOUD ADDRESSED AFGHAN NATION JULY 16 ON
EVE OF "JESHYN" (REPUBLIC DAY) CELEBRATIONS MARKING THIRD
ANNIVERSARY OF COUP WHICH BROUGHT DAOUD TO POWER. SPEECH
REVIE D PROGRESS OF NATION UNDER REPUBCSC, REITERWED
GOALS OF SERVICE TO PEOPLE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, STRESSED
NEED FOR PATRIOTIC SACRIFICES, AND EXPLICATED 7-YEAR PLAN.
SPEECH CONQMAINED NO DRAOSTIC SKIPRISES. HHZECER, ANNOUNCEMENT
CONCERNING CONSTITUTIONAL DRAFT AND DAOUD'S TREATMENT OF
BHUTTO VISIT MARKED IMPORTANT STAGES AMF EVOLUTION HN
AFGHANISTAN'S INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL POLICIES.

2. CONSTITUTION. DAOUD ANNOUNCED THAT COMMISSION WHICH
HAD BEEN GIVEN DRAFT CONSTITUTION HAD COMPLETED ITS WORK
AND HAD RETURNED DRAFT TO GOVERNMENT AFTER STUDY AND
(UNSPECIXAED) VPANGES. DAOUD STATED THAT HE HOPED THAT
CONSTITUTION WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO LOYA JIRGAH (NATIONAL
CONVOCATION OF INFLUENTIAIS), RATIFIED AND PUT INTO EFFECT
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BEFORE END OF CURRENT YEAR(AFGHAN YEARS END ON MARCH 20).

3. PAKISTAN. A SET PIECE OF MAJOR AFGHAN POLICY STATEMENTS IS REVIEW OF PRINCIPLES OF AFGHAN FOREIGN POLICY. TO ILLUSTRATE AFGHANISTAN'S NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN POLICY, DAOUD MENTIONED DEC 75 PODGORNY VISIT, INDIRA GANDHI'S RECENT VISIT AND SPECIAL ENVOY MOHD. NAIM RECENT OFFICIAL VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND PARIS. IN THIS CONTEXT HE ALSO DISCUSSED P.M. BHUTTO'S JUNE 1976 ;8 85 TO KABUL (REF B), STATING THAT WHILE THE LONG STANDING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES CANNOT BE SOLVED IMMEDIATELY, "THE ATMOSPHERE CREATED DURING HIS VISIT HERE... MAKES ME HOPEFUL THAT AN HONORABLE SETTLEMENT CAN BE FOUND SO THAT OUR COUNTRIES CAN LIVE IN PEACE AS FRIENDS." (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION). THERE WAS NO MENTION IN SPEECH OF PUSHTUNISTAN, NOR THE STANDARD INVOCATION OF "RIGHTS OF PUSHTUN AND BALUCH BROTHERS."

4. COMMENT. TAKEN AS A WHOLE DAOUD'S SPEECH WAS A REASSURING MESSAGE TO THE AFGHAN PEOPLE THAT THE REPUBLIC ENTERS ITS FOURTH YEAR TRYING TO OVERCOME THE MANY SOCIAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FACING THE NATION AND ON THE HOPEFUL PATH OF REGULARIZING THE STATUS OF ITS GOVERNMENT AND OVERCOMING ITS MAJOR BI-LATERAL PROBLEM.
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